



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

MONTHLY STATEMENT  
OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

To replenish your deposit account, detach and  
return top portion with your check. Make check  
payable to Director of Patents & Trademarks.

O'KEEFE & EGAN & PETERMAN  
1101 CAPITAL OF TEXAS HIGHWAY SOUTH  
BLDG.C SUITE 200  
AUSTIN TX 78746

FINA

Account No.	101205
Date	10-31-05
Page	1

PLEASE SEND REMITTANCES TO:  
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 70541  
Chicago, IL 60673

DATE POSTED			CONTROL NO.	DESCRIPTION (Serial, Patent, TM, Order)	DOCKET NO.	FEE CODE	CHARGES/ CREDITS	BALANCE
MO.	DAY	YR.						
10	11	05	2	10676842	LCOM:006	1202	450.00	7369.00
10	18	05	25	10095403	F-7342	2251	60.00	7309.00
10	18	05	118	10681405	SILA:035C2	8001	12.00	7297.00
10	19	05	9	10706148	TRIA:002D1	1202	50.00	7247.00
10	25	05	42	10672259	SILA:014D1C1	8001	24.00	7223.00
10	26	05	68	0159410354	DC-07378 (DELL:004)	8014	25.00	7198.00
10	26	05	152	0159410354	DC-07378 (DELL:004)	8014	25.00	7173.00
10	28	05	82	10692313	ADVA:020	8001	21.00	7152.00
10	28	05	271	0159410354	DC-07378 (DELL:004)	8014	50.00	7102.00
10	31	05	84	11205760	SPIN:002	2201	40.00	7062.00
AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO COVER ALL SERVICES REQUESTED MUST ALWAYS BE ON DEPOSIT			OPENING BALANCE		TOTAL CHARGES		TOTAL CREDITS	CLOSING BALANCE
			7819.00		757.00		0.00	7062.00

10208 (8/2004)

\*\*\* O.D. INDICATES OVERDRAWN

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
In re Application of: Brooks R. Nolan  
Filed: 10/1/03; USSN: 10/676,842  
Title: Systems And Methods For Aerial Dispersion Of  
Materials  
Enclosed herewith:

1. Request For Extension Of Time To Respond To  
Office Action Dated July 8, 2005
  2. Amendment And Response To Restriction  
Requirement Dated July 8, 2005
  3. Check in the amount of \$450.00
  4. Our return postcard
- L-3 Integrated Systems Company  
Atty. Dkt.: LCOM:006  
Atty.: WWE/mj  
Mailed: 9/28/05





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: BROOKS R. NOLAN

Filed: OCTOBER 1, 2003

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AERIAL DISPERSION OF  
MATERIALS

Serial No.: 10/676,842

Group Art Unit: 3644

Examiner: HOLZEN, S.

Atty Dkt: LCOM:006

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on the date below:

9/28/05  
Date

Marty Jones  
Name

Commissioner For Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

**I. AMENDMENT;**

**II. RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED JULY 8, 2005**

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 8, 2005.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time for two month(s) to and including October 8, 2005, in which to respond to the Office Action dated July 8, 2005.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17, a check in the amount of \$450.00 is enclosed, which is the fee for a two month(s) extension of time. No additional fees are believed due, however should any fees under 37 CFR 1.16-1.21 be required for any reason relating to

the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such additional fees from Deposit Account No. 10-1205/LCOM:006. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.136(a)(3), the Commissioner is authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.126(a) to be timely, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time, and the Commissioner is authorized to deduct any requisite extension of time fees under 37 CFR 1.16 to 1.21 from Deposit Account No. 10-1205/LCOM:006.

The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number indicated below with any questions or comments, or to otherwise facilitate expeditious and compact prosecution of the application.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

## I. AMENDMENT

### **In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, 54, and 56-84. Please add new claims 85-86. Please cancel claims 8, 22, and 53.

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim ~~8~~ 20, wherein said aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured with a shape and outer dimensions that correspond to dimensions of a cargo container employed in the side-loading cargo system of said host aircraft.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim ~~8~~ 20, wherein said aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured with a shape and dimensions for installation in a passenger compartment of said host aircraft through a passenger door opening of said fixed wing host aircraft.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim ~~8~~ 20, wherein each of said aerial dispersant holding tanks comprises at least one flow opening on a first end of said holding tank, said first flow opening being configured to sealably mate with a flow opening of an adjacent aerial dispersant holding tank when two or more of said aerial dispersant tanks are positioned in adjacent end-to-end relationship within the baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim ~~8~~ 20, wherein a first one of said aerial dispersant holding tanks is configured to be coupled to at least a

second one of said aerial dispersant holding tanks to provide a dispersant material flow path from said first aerial dispersant holding tank to said second aerial dispersant holding tank when said first and second aerial dispersant tanks are positioned in adjacent front end-to-rear end relationship within the baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 8 20, wherein said dispersal regulator comprises at least a part of a dispersal equipment container or a dispersal equipment pallet.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 8 20, wherein said dispersal regulator comprises a pump.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 12, wherein at least one of said first or second aerial dispersant tanks comprises flow control equipment configured to control flow of materials from said first aerial dispersant holding tank to said second aerial dispersant holding tank.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 8 20, further comprising a cargo door configured to be removably disposed within a cargo opening of said host aircraft; and wherein said airborne dispersal device is configured to be coupled to said dispersal regulator through said cargo door.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 8 20, wherein said aerial dispersion system further comprises ~~comprising~~ a passenger door configured to be removably disposed within a passenger door opening of said host aircraft; and

wherein said airborne dispersal device is configured to be coupled to said dispersal regulator through said passenger door.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 8 20, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks comprise a material containment subsystem; wherein said dispersal regulator comprises a material dispersal subsystem; and wherein said aerial dispersion system further comprises a control subsystem configured to be coupled to said material containment subsystem and said material dispersal subsystem.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 18, wherein said aerial dispersion system further comprises comprising a navigation subsystem, a communications subsystem, and a sensor subsystem; wherein said navigation subsystem, communications subsystem, and sensor subsystem are configured to be coupled to said control subsystem; and wherein said control subsystem, said navigation subsystem and said communications subsystem are configured to be coupled to one or more Host Aircraft Systems.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of temporarily converting a at least one fixed wing host aircraft for aerial dispersion purposes, comprising:

removably installing the an aerial dispersion system of claim 8 on a said fixed wing host fixed-wing aircraft to form an aircraft-based material dispersion system; and

then removing said aerial dispersion system from said fixed wing host aircraft;

wherein said aerial dispersion system comprises:

two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks configured to be sequentially loaded into said host aircraft and coupled together within said host aircraft to provide a dispersant material flow path,

a dispersal regulator configured to be coupled to said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks, and

an airborne dispersal device configured to be coupled to said dispersal regulator; and

wherein said aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured with a shape and outer dimensions that correspond to dimensions of a cargo container employed in a side-loading cargo system of said fixed wing host aircraft, or wherein said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured for installation and removal from an aircraft passenger compartment of said fixed wing host aircraft through a passenger door opening of said fixed wing host aircraft.

21. (Currently Amended) An aerial dispersion method, comprising ~~removably installing the aerial dispersion system of claim 8 on a host fixed wing aircraft to form an aircraft-based material dispersion system; and~~ aerially dispersing a material from said aircraft-based material dispersion system of claim 20 after installing said aerial dispersion system on said host fixed wing aircraft and prior to removing said aerial dispersion system from said fixed wing host aircraft.

22. (Cancelled)



23. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim ~~33~~ 22, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured to be removably disposed within said baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft using said side-loading cargo system of said host aircraft.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim ~~33~~ 22, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured to be removably disposed within a passenger compartment of said host aircraft through said passenger door opening.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 23, wherein said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system comprises two or more of said aerial dispersant holding tanks coupled together and removably disposed in adjacent front end-to-rear end relationship within said baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 24, wherein said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system comprises two or more of said aerial dispersant holding tanks coupled together and removably disposed in adjacent front end-to-rear end relationship within said passenger compartment of said host aircraft.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 25, wherein said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system further comprises ~~comprising~~ flow control equipment coupled to at least one of said aerial dispersant holding tanks and configured to control flow of materials between two or more of said aerial dispersant holding tanks.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 25, wherein said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system further comprises ~~comprising~~ a cargo door removably disposed within a cargo opening of said host aircraft; and wherein said airborne dispersal device is coupled to said dispersal regulator through said cargo door.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 26, wherein said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system further comprises ~~comprising~~ a passenger door removably disposed within a passenger door opening of said host aircraft; and wherein said airborne dispersal device is coupled to said dispersal regulator through said passenger door.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 23, wherein said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device are removably installed on said host aircraft.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim ~~33~~ 22, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks comprise a material containment subsystem; wherein said dispersal regulator comprises a material dispersal subsystem; and wherein said aerial dispersion system further comprises a control subsystem coupled to said material containment subsystem and said material dispersal subsystem.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 31, wherein said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system further comprises

comprising a navigation subsystem, a communications subsystem, and a sensor subsystem; wherein said navigation subsystem, communications subsystem, and sensor subsystem are coupled to said control subsystem; and wherein said control subsystem, said navigation subsystem and said communications subsystem are coupled to one or more Host Aircraft Systems.

33. (Currently Amended) An aerial dispersion method, comprising aurally dispersing one or more materials from ~~the~~ at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system, said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system comprising: of claim 22

a fixed wing host aircraft;

two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks sequentially disposed within said fixed wing host aircraft, said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks being coupled together within said fixed wing host aircraft to provide a dispersant material flowpath;

a dispersal regulator disposed on said host aircraft and coupled to said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks; and

an airborne dispersal device disposed on said host aircraft and coupled to said dispersal regulator;

wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are disposed within a baggage or cargo hold of said fixed wing host aircraft and are configured to be compatible with a side-loading aircraft cargo system of said fixed wing host aircraft, or wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are disposed within a passenger compartment of said fixed wing host aircraft and are configured for installation and removal from an aircraft passenger compartment of said fixed wing

host aircraft through a passenger door opening of said fixed wing host aircraft; and

wherein said method further comprises installing said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks, said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device on said fixed wing host aircraft prior to aerially dispersing said one or more materials from said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system; and

wherein said method further comprises removing said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks, said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device from said fixed wing host aircraft after aerially dispersing said one or more materials from said at least one aircraft-based material dispersion system.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The aerial dispersion method of claim 33, comprising aerially dispersing one or more materials in a coordinated manner from a fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems of claim 33 22- ; and wherein said method further comprises installing said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks, said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device on each aircraft of said fleet of said fixed wing host aircraft prior to aerially dispersing said one or more materials from said fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems; and wherein said method further comprises removing said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks, said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device from each aircraft of said fleet of fixed wing host aircraft after aerially dispersing said one or more materials from said fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~The aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 33 22, wherein said host aircraft comprises a wide body aircraft.

36-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion system~~ method of claim 8 20, wherein said host aircraft comprises a wide body aircraft.

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion~~ method of claim 20, wherein said host aircraft comprises a commercial passenger or commercial cargo plane.

55. (Previously Presented) The aerial dispersion method of claim 21, further comprising installing at least first and second aerial dispersant holding tanks into a baggage or cargo hold of said host fixed wing aircraft by slidably or rollably transporting said first and second aerial dispersant holding tanks within said baggage or cargo hold in a forward or rearward direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the aircraft fuselage; and stacking said first and second aerial dispersant holding tanks in adjacent front end-to-rear end relationship within said baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft.

56. (Currently Amended) The aerial dispersion method of claim 21, wherein said method comprises aerially dispersing said material from said aircraft-based material dispersion system to suppress a fire prior to removing said aerial dispersion system from said fixed wing host aircraft.

57. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 33 22, wherein said host aircraft comprises a commercial passenger or commercial cargo plane.

58. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 23, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured with a shape and outer dimensions that correspond to dimensions of a cargo container employed in said side-loading cargo system of said host aircraft.

59. (Currently Amended) The aerial dispersion method of claim 33, wherein said method comprises aurally dispersing said one or more materials from said aircraft-based material dispersion system to suppress a fire prior to removing said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks, said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device from said fixed wing host aircraft.

60. (Currently Amended) The aerial dispersion method of claim 34, wherein said method comprises aurally dispersing said one or more materials from said fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems to suppress a fire prior to removing said two or more modular aerial dispersant holding tanks, said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device from each aircraft of said fleet of fixed wing host aircraft.

61. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 58, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are disposed and stacked in end to end manner within said baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the fuselage of said aircraft.

62. (Currently Amended) ~~The aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 61, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are disposed within said baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft upon a surface configured to allow said cargo containers to be slidably or rollably transported forward or rearward in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of said aircraft fuselage.

63. (Currently Amended) ~~The aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 52, wherein said host aircraft has a gross carrying capacity of greater than or equal to about 100,000 pounds.

64. (Currently Amended) A method of temporarily converting at least one wide body host aircraft for aerial dispersion purposes ~~An aircraft-based material dispersion system,~~ comprising:

~~a wide body host aircraft;~~

installing one two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks disposed within said wide body host aircraft to form an aircraft-based material dispersion system; and

then removing said one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks from said wide body host aircraft , said aerial dispersant holding tanks being configured as cargo containers;

~~a dispersal regulator disposed on said wide body host aircraft and coupled to said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks; and~~

~~an airborne dispersal device disposed on said wide body host aircraft and coupled to said dispersal regulator.~~

65. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 64, wherein said wide body host aircraft has a gross carrying capacity of greater than or equal to about 100,000 pounds.

66. (Currently Amended) The ~~aerial dispersion~~ method of claim 65, wherein said wide body host aircraft comprises a wide body passenger or wide body cargo plane.

67. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 64, wherein said wide body host aircraft has a side-loading cargo system; and wherein said one ~~two~~ or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured as cargo containers that are removably disposed within a baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft using said side-loading cargo system of said host aircraft.

68. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 64, wherein said wide body host aircraft has at least one passenger door opening for access to a passenger compartment of said aircraft; and wherein said one ~~two~~ or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured as cargo containers that are removably disposed within a passenger compartment of said wide body host aircraft through said passenger door opening.

69. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 67, wherein said aircraft-based material dispersion system comprises two or more of said aerial dispersant holding tanks coupled together and removably disposed in adjacent front end-to-rear end relationship within said baggage or cargo hold of said wide body host aircraft.



70. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 68, wherein said aircraft-based material dispersion system comprises two or more of said aerial dispersant holding tanks coupled together and removably disposed in adjacent front end-to-rear end relationship within said passenger compartment of said wide body host aircraft.

71. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 69, wherein said aircraft-based material dispersion system further ~~comprising~~ comprises flow control equipment coupled to at least one of said aerial dispersant holding tanks and configured to control flow of materials between two or more of said aerial dispersant holding tanks.

72. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 69, wherein said aircraft-based material dispersion system further ~~comprising~~ comprises a cargo door removably disposed within a cargo opening of said wide body host aircraft; and wherein said airborne dispersal device is coupled to said dispersal regulator through said cargo door.

73. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 70, wherein said aircraft-based material dispersion system further ~~comprising~~ comprises a passenger door removably disposed within a passenger door opening of said wide body host aircraft; and wherein said airborne dispersal device is coupled to said dispersal regulator through said passenger ~~cargo~~ door.

74. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 67, wherein said dispersal regulator and said airborne dispersal device are removably installed on said wide body host aircraft.

75. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 64, wherein said ~~one~~ two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks comprise a material containment subsystem; wherein said dispersal regulator comprises a material dispersal subsystem; and wherein said ~~aerial dispersion~~ aircraft-based material dispersion system further comprises a control subsystem coupled to said material containment subsystem and said material dispersal subsystem.

76. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 75, wherein said aircraft-based material dispersion system further comprising comprises a navigation subsystem, a communications subsystem, and a sensor subsystem; wherein said navigation subsystem, communications subsystem, and sensor subsystem are coupled to said control subsystem; and wherein said control subsystem, said navigation subsystem and said communications subsystem are coupled to one or more Host Aircraft Systems.

77. (Currently Amended) ~~An aerial dispersion~~ The method of claim 64, wherein said wide body host aircraft has a conventional passenger or conventional cargo configuration prior to installing said one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks within said wide body host aircraft; and wherein said method further comprising comprises:

aerially dispersing one or more materials from the said aircraft-based material dispersion system ~~of claim 64; and~~

then removing said one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks from within said wide body host aircraft to return said host wide body aircraft to said conventional passenger or conventional cargo configuration.

78. (Currently Amended) ~~The aerial dispersion method of claim 77, wherein said method comprises aerially dispersing said one or more materials from said aircraft-based material dispersion system to suppress a fire~~ prior to removing said one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks from within said wide body host aircraft.

79. (Currently Amended) ~~An aerial dispersion~~ The method of claim 64, wherein said method comprises:

converting two or more host wide body aircraft to a fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems by installing one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks within each of said two or more wide body host aircraft to form a fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems, each of said two or more host wide body aircraft having a conventional passenger or conventional cargo configuration prior to installing said one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks within each of said wide body host aircraft;

comprising aerially dispersing one or more materials in a coordinated manner from a said fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems of claim 64 ; and

then removing said one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks from within each of said two or more wide body host aircraft to return said two or more host wide body aircraft to said conventional passenger or conventional cargo configuration.

80. (Currently Amended) ~~The aerial dispersion method of claim 79, wherein said method comprises aerially dispersing said one or more materials from said fleet of aircraft-based~~

material dispersion systems to suppress a fire prior to removing said one or more aerial dispersant holding tanks from within each of said two or more wide body host aircraft.

81. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 64, wherein said host aircraft comprises a commercial passenger or commercial cargo plane.

82. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 67, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are configured with a shape and outer dimensions that correspond to dimensions of a cargo container employed in said side-loading cargo system of said host aircraft.

83. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 82, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are disposed and stacked in end to end manner within said baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the fuselage of said aircraft.

84. (Currently Amended) The ~~aircraft-based material dispersion system~~ method of claim 83, wherein said two or more aerial dispersant holding tanks are disposed within said baggage or cargo hold of said host aircraft upon a surface configured to allow said cargo containers to be slidably or rollably transported forward or rearward in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of said aircraft fuselage.

85. (New) An aerial dispersion method, comprising:

installing an aerial dispersion system of claim 20 on aircraft of a fleet of said fixed wing host aircraft to form a fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems of claim 20;

then aerially dispersing one or more materials in a coordinated manner from said fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems of claim 20; and

then removing said aerial dispersion systems of claim 20 from each aircraft of said fleet of fixed wing host aircraft.

86. (New) The aerial dispersion method of claim 85, wherein said method comprises aerially dispersing said one or more materials from said fleet of aircraft-based material dispersion systems to suppress a fire prior to removing said aerial dispersion systems of claim 20 from each aircraft of said fleet of fixed wing host aircraft.

## **II. RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, 54, and 56-84 have been amended to even more particularly point out and claim the subject matter of the claims. Claims 85-86 have been added. Claims 8, 22, and 53 have been canceled. Claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are pending in the present application.

The claims are presented herein with the accompanying Amendments in view of the claims as Applicant believes them to stand following the Examiner's amendments described in the Detailed Action accompanying the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed January 4, 2005, and in the Examiner's Amendment accompanying the Supplemental Notice of Allowability mailed February 14, 2005.

### **A. The Examiner Interview**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for granting an interview with Applicant's representative, William W. Enders, on August 31, 2005 during which the outstanding Restriction Requirement was discussed.

During the interview, the Examiner stated that the statement in paragraph 4, page 3, of the Restriction Requirement that "Currently, no claims are generic" should be ignored as it is incorrect with regard to aircraft type. Thus, it is Applicant's understanding that the Examiner agrees that the pending claims include claims generic to aircraft type.

During the interview, Applicant's representative pointed out that with regard to the Species Election requirement, that Commercial aircraft include both Passenger types of aircraft and Cargo Plane types of aircraft.

Applicant's representative and the Examiner also discussed claim amendments to be submitted with this response to the restriction requirement. These include amendments to the pending system claims to convert these system claims to method claims, and the elimination of some of the limitations of the pending system claims in conjunction with conversion of these claims to method claims. The Examiner indicated that such amendments were acceptable.

**B. Election of Claims**

Group I: previous claims 8-19, 22-32, 35, 52, 57, 58, 61-76 and 81-84; and

Group II: previous claims 20, 21, 33, 34, 53-56, 59, 60 and 77-80.

In response, Applicant elects to prosecute Group II, or previous claims 20, 21, 33, 34, 53-56, 59, 60 and 77-80, without traverse. In this regard, previous system claims have been amended as discussed above to be method claims for inclusion with the claims of Group II. In addition, new claims 85-86 have been added as method claims of Group II.

**C. Species Election**

In response to the Species Election requirement, Applicant elects the following species enumerated by the Examiner in paragraph 4 of the Office Action:

Applicant elects "Commercial" aircraft type. As herewith amended, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are readable thereon. Furthermore, at least claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, 55-56, 58-80, and 82-86 are generic to aircraft type. As discussed above, each of a Passenger aircraft and a Cargo Plane aircraft may be a Commercial aircraft, *i.e.*, Commercial aircraft include both Passenger aircraft and Cargo Plane aircraft.

Applicant elects "Wide Bodied" fuselage construction. As herewith amended, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are readable thereon. Furthermore, at least claims 9-21, 23-34, 55-56, 58-62, and 85-86 are generic to the enumerated fuselage constructions.

Applicant elects "In the cargo hold" cargo container location. As herewith amended, claims 9-21, 23-25, 27-28, 30-35, 52, and 54-67, 69, 71-72, and 74-86 are readable thereon. Furthermore, at least claims 9-21, 23-24, 30-35, 52, 54, 56-60, 63-66, 75-81, and 85-86 are generic to the enumerated cargo container locations. In this regard, Applicants note that a baggage hold is a type of cargo hold, *i.e.*, the term "cargo hold" includes baggage hold cargo container locations.

Applicant elects "A segregated interior" tank construction. As herewith amended, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are readable thereon. Furthermore, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are generic to the enumerated interior tank constructions.

Applicant elects "Automatic" dispersal actuation. As herewith amended, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are readable thereon. Furthermore, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are generic to the enumerated dispersal actuations.



Applicant elects "Side Loading" cargo loading location. As herewith amended, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, 54-67, 69, 71-72, and 74-86 are readable thereon. Furthermore, at least claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, 54-66, 75-81, and 85-86 are generic to the enumerated cargo loading locations.

Applicant elects "Pseudo Cargo Containers" cargo container type. As herewith amended, claims 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are readable thereon. Furthermore, 9-21, 23-35, 52, and 54-86 are generic to the enumerated cargo container types.

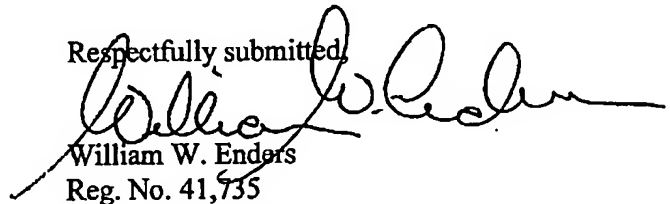
D. Conclusion

Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the application and claims is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512)-347-1611 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



William W. Enders

Reg. No. 41,735

Attorney for Applicants

O'Keefe, Egan & Peterman, LLP  
1101 S. Capital of Texas Highway  
Building C, Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78746  
512/347-1611  
FAX 512/347-1615

Date: 9/27/05



Patent Ref  
DIVISION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2005 NOV 29 PM 4:07

In re Application of: BROOKS R. NOLAN  
Filed: OCTOBER 1, 2003  
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AERIAL DISPERSION OF MATERIALS  
Serial No.: 10/676,842  
Group Art Unit: 3644  
Examiner: HOLZEN, S.  
Atty. Dkt.: LCOM:006

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a first class, postage prepaid envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:

11/21/06  
Date Name

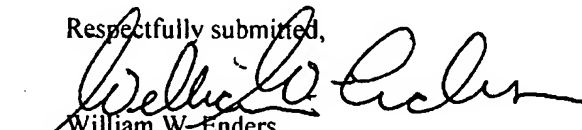
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**STATUS INQUIRY OF REQUEST FOR REFUND TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

Pursuant to MPEP § 203.08, Applicant requests the Office to advise the undersigned of the status of the Request For Refund To Deposit Account that was received by the USPTO on December 27, 2005. A copy of the Request For Refund To Deposit Account is attached for your convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

  
William W. Enders  
Reg. No. 41,735

O'KEEFE, EGAN & PETERMAN, L.L.P.  
1101 Capital of Texas Highway South  
Building C, Suite 200  
Austin, TX 78746  
(512) 347-1611  
(512) 347-1615 (FAX)



Received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
In re Application of: Brooks R. Nolan  
Filed: 10/1/03; USSN: 10/676,842  
Title: Systems And Methods For Aerial Dispersion Of  
Materials

Enclosed herewith:

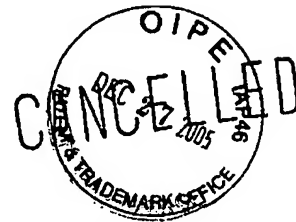
1. Request For Refund To Deposit Account
2. Copy of Amendment and Request for Extension of  
Time and postcard that were previously filed
3. Our return postcard

L-3 Integrated Systems Company

Atty. Dkt.: LCOM:006

Atty.: WWE/mj

Mailed: 12/19/05





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: BROOKS R. NOLAN

Filed: OCTOBER 1, 2003

For: STEMS AND METHODS FOR AERIAL DISPERSION OF MATERIALS

Serial No.: 10/676,842

Group Art Unit: 3644

Examiner: HOLZEN, S.

Atty Dkt: LCOM:006

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:

Date 12/19/05 Name Mary Jones

**REQUEST FOR REFUND TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

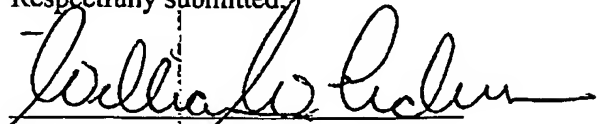
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests a refund to Deposit Account No. 10-1205 in the amount of \$450.00, the fee for claims in excess of twenty. Applicant filed an Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement dated July 8, 2005 along with a Request for Extension of Time attaching a check in the amount of \$450.00 for the Extension of Time. Included herewith is a copy of that Amendment and Extension of Time.

The Monthly Statement for Deposit Account No. 10-1205 dated 10/11/05 shows a charge in the amount of \$450.00 for claims in excess of twenty. A copy of the Statement is included.

Respectfully submitted,



William W. Enders

Reg. No. 41,735

Attorney for Applicant

O'KEEFE, EGAN & PETERMAN  
1101 Capital of Texas Highway South  
Building C, Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78746  
(512) 347-1611  
FAX: (512) 347-1615



In re Application of: BROOKS R. NOLAN

Filed: OCTOBER 1, 2003

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AERIAL DISPERSION OF MATERIALS

Serial No.: 10/676,842

Group Art Unit: 3644

Examiner: HOLZEN, S.

Atty Dkt: LCOM:006

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on the date below:

9/28/05  
Date

Marty Gino  
Name

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO**  
**OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 8, 2005**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

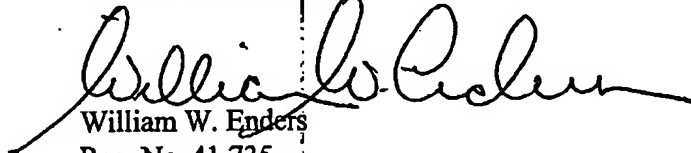
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time for two month(s) to and including October 8, 2005, in which to respond to the Office Action dated July 8, 2005.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17, a check in the amount of \$450.00 is enclosed, which is the fee for a two month(s) extension of time.

If the check is inadvertently omitted, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Deposit Account No. 10-1205/LCOM:006.

Respectfully submitted,



William W. Enders  
Reg. No. 41,735  
Attorney for Applicants

O'KEEFE, EGAN & PETERMAN, LLP  
1101 Capital of Texas Highway So.  
Building C, Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78746  
512/347-1611  
FAX: 512/347-1615



United States Patent and Trademark Office  
- Sales Receipt -

10/11/2005 CCOFER 00000002 101205 10676842

01 FC:1202 450.00 DA

Adjustment Date: 12/14/2006 ZJUHAR1  
10/11/2005 CCOFER 00000002 101205 10676842  
01 FC:1202 450.00 CR

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

**BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☒ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**